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THE SOUTHWEST KANSAS REUNION.

DODGE CITY, AUGUST 20-23, 1901.

To Be an Interesting Event.

The annual reunion of the Southwest Kansas Old Soldiers' Association, which is to take place beginning August 20 and continuing four days, in Dodge City, is a promising event, for which ample preparation is being made for the entertainment of all who attend. To this reunion everybody is invited, of whatever shade of opinion. It is a social affair, and intended to bring the people closer together. At this reunion the people of the Southwest will come in contact with some of the distinguished men of the State and Nation.

The Secretary of the Association has received letters from the following persons, who have promised to be present:

United States Senator J. R. Burton.
United States Senator W. A. Harris.

Major William Warner, Past National Commander.

Ex Congressman S. R. Peters.
Congressman Chester I. Long.
Ex-Congressman Jerry Simpson.

Governor W. E. Stanley.
State Senator T. F. Noffzger.
State Senator F. D. Smith.

Hon. C. G. Webb, of Stafford.
One or more of these men will address the reunion on each day. They will discuss public questions without regard to political aspect. Every question before the American public, and which touches upon the social and material welfare of the people, will be presented. It is an opportunity we seldom have to listen to the best thought as presented by public men who are in contact with the most progressive ideas of the day. These distinguished men are well known to the people of Southwestern Kansas; and their names are as familiar as household words.

The social features will not be the only attraction of the reunion, but the speeches will all afford an enlightenment, which cannot fail to form the incentive for a deeper insight into the American character. Considered from this standpoint, the reunion will afford some educational advantages on popular questions. We are intermediaries, and from the bright and advanced views of others, we inspire our own thoughts.

The reunion is to be held in the Dodge City park, a shady grove of nearly one hundred acres, where refreshments and comfort can be had. Tents will be supplied and good meals can be obtained. It is the purpose of the officers of the association and the people of Dodge City to render genuine hospitality to every guest. We have no doubt a cordial and generous welcome will be given, and every means will be used for the comfort and pleasure of everybody.

The Camp Meeting.

The annual camp meeting of the Dodge City District, M. E. church, will be held in the Dodge City Park, beginning Thursday evening, August 8, and continuing ten days. This will be an interesting and entertaining religious gathering, where the social and spiritual instinct will happily prevail. It will do you good to be present and enjoy the feast of reason and flow of soul.

Tents for rent at the camp meeting at \$1.50 for the season.

Astonished The Editor.

Editor S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., was once immensely surprised. "Through long suffering from Dyspepsia," he writes, "my wife was greatly run down. She had no strength or vigor and suffered great distress from her stomach, but she tried Electric Bitters which helped her at once, and, after using four bottles, she is entirely well, can eat anything. It's a grand tonic, and its gentle laxative qualities are splendid for torpid liver." For indigestion, loss of appetite, stomach and liver troubles it's a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c at Rath & Bainbridge's.

Every thing in the Bicycle line at the NOVELTY WORKS.

UXORICIDE—SUICIDE.

A Double Tragedy in Dodge City.

E. Kirby, proprietor of the Park Hotel, Monday, at noon, with a .38 caliber pistol, shot and killed his wife and then shot and killed himself, both dying instantly. Only a few minutes before the tragedy, Kirby purchased a pistol at the City Hardware Store. The pistol was loaded with five shots, all of which were discharged. Mrs. Kirby was shot twice, one shot striking her on left side of forehead, above the eye, and one shot taking effect on left temple, near the ear, the balls passing through the head. Kirby shot himself in the heart, the ball entering at the right side of the temple. The fourth shot entered the ceiling. This may have been the first shot fired; as the woman resisted and begged piteously for her life.

Several persons were promptly in the room soon after the shooting, which occurred in a front basement room, occupied by the family. The bodies were covered with blood, and the pistol was found under Kirby's hip. Life was extinct in both bodies, except in Mr. Kirby's body the muscles were twitching.

Mrs. Kirby had threatened to apply for a divorce, and had made preparation to go to a lawyer's office, when Kirby fired the fatal shot. She had dressed herself in preparation for this move, and was about to ascend the steps when her husband fired the shot. The news of the killing soon spread over the city and many people had gone to the hotel to see the bodies, but the sheriff took charge, and prevented the entrance of curiosity seekers, awaiting the arrival of Coroner Hollopeter, who came on the Rock Island at 5:30 p. m.

E. Kirby took charge of the Park Hotel on February 11, last, and he was doing a good business. Mrs. Kirby had secured possession of the hotel property in her own name under promise of staying with her husband, and it is said that she intended trying for a divorce in order to carry out the purpose she had boasted of, that of making her husband "dance to her music," or else finding a home somewhere else. Kirby was about 40 years of age and his wife about 38 years. Both had been married before, but this was Mrs. Kirby's third marriage, she being divorced from her second husband. They each leave a child, Cally Kirby, age 15 years, son of E. Kirby, and Mattie, age 17, daughter of Mrs. Kirby, by a former marriage. Mr. Kirby's father and mother, made a home with him, and were at home at the time of the shooting. The dinner had been prepared, and the boarders and guests were going to the hotel when the news of the killing had been announced.

Sheriff Hale summoned a jury, consisting of T. E. French, W. F. Pettillon, Frank Chapman, T. B. Rice, M. M. Gwinner, G. V. Bartlett, and the bodies were removed at 4 p. m., to Adam & Hulpfen's undertaking rooms.

Undertaker Adam embalmed Mrs. Kirby's body, and Undertaker Coons embalmed Mr. Kirby's body. The embalming of his body was difficult owing to the searing of the artery by the bullet.

Coroner Hollopeter held an inquest Tuesday morning. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased persons came to their death at the hands of Kirby.

Mr. Kirby, a short time before the shooting, after the purchase of the pistol, and while walking from Front street to the hotel in company with a boarder, talked with the man about a land trade. He did not seem to be disturbed. Before going to the basement, he talked to his son. In a few minutes the shots were heard, but the noise did not sound like a gun shot explosion, and a few minutes elapsed before those who heard the noise realized that a horrible crime had been committed.

It was shown at the inquest that five shots were fired—the two first shots evidently missing, one entering the ceiling as stated above, and one shot unaccounted for. The pistol contained no balls when found. It was the last shot with which Kirby killed himself. His dying last leaves no question as to the rights of the property, which falls to his heirs—and both children will share alike.

The room was locked when entrance was gained after the killing. Mrs. Kirby had a door key and a silver coin in her hand, when she was found dead, lying slightly on the right side with face downwards.

The existence of a family feud was unknown except to a few people. The boy may have understood the situation, when, after the shooting, in his frenzy, he said, clasping a friend by the body, "Oh! papa has killed mamma and killed himself, but he is not to blame."

Kirby and wife were married about four years, and came from Missouri about three years ago. They made a trip to Colorado a few weeks ago, looking after some land interests, and they appeared amiable on this trip. Only a few weeks ago Kirby purchased his wife a \$500 piano. He desired to please her in every respect.

This occurrence naturally aroused the people and sent a thrill of horror over the community. The family differences were known to only few people, but the facts which led to the tragedy are briefly stated in this article. Kirby was highly regarded by every one who knew him, being a peaceable citizen and courteous man. His wife was pleasant to every one who knew her, and it is said the husband did everything in his power to make things pleasant and comfortable for her. In the heat of passion, incensed beyond control, the husband committed the horrible crime, for which there is no mitigation in the sight of God and society.

On July 9, Mr. Kirby was prostrated with heat, and dysentery followed. He was delirious at times owing to this sickness. Dr. Milton, who was attending him, cautioned him against excess of any kind. His recent trip to Colorado was against the Doctor's wishes. Those who were intimate with Kirby and wife say he was much devoted to her and endeavored to please her in all things. Both Kirby and wife were persons of strong characters as indicated in their features. The most charitable view to take of this unfortunate occurrence is that Kirby was suffering from a mental disease induced by bowel trouble.

Kirby and family moved from near the Ford county line in Meade county to this place. The hotel property is without incumbrance, but J. H. Dupree, the former owner, holds a mortgage of \$100 on the furniture.

Kirby owned a farm in Missouri, some land in Colorado, a ranch in Meade county, and the brick hotel property in Dodge City, all of which he had decided to his wife only a short time ago. Kirby also owned a lot of cattle.

The funeral took place today, the interment being made in the G. A. R. cemetery. The bodies are buried in separate graves.

The funeral exercises were held in the undertaker's room, Rev. Wm. Westwood conducting the services. Chairs had been provided and quite a number of people were present. The choir sang several hymns. Mr. Westwood delivered a short sermon. There was much sorrow expressed over the sad affair.

Notice.

It has been erroneously published in some of the state papers that the Southwest Kansas Reunion would be held August 26-31, which is wrong. Our original dates August 20 to 23 still stand and the reunion is going to be a great success. A large number of our distinguished statesmen will be here.

D. L. SWEENEY, president.
J. A. ARMENT, secretary.

A "Dry Country" Story.

Here is the story of a farmer out in a country where a few years ago it was said to be too dry to grow hair upon a dog, as told by the Kinsley Mercury: "J. E. Fisher, of Franklin township, paid the Mercury a call Saturday. Mr. Fisher has just finished threshing 6,000 bushels of wheat, a portion of which went thirty-three bushels to the acre, and the average throughout was over twenty bushels. Mr. Fisher says that the south side will not suffer for feed this winter. He himself has 1,600 bushels of old corn on hand and most of his neighbors have more or less of last year's crop. There will be forage enough to carry through the stock of cattle on hand, and the wheat crop is larger both as to acreage and yield than ever before. Five years ago Mr. Fisher was about ready to leave Kansas discouraged at the prospect. At the present time he and his boys have nine quarters of clear land besides a hundred head of cattle, twenty head of horses, a full complement of farming tools and 6,000 bushels of wheat."

It is mighty queer how some people will rear up on their hind feet and paw the air when some item of news happens to be a little off on facts. Yet, these same people would not tell you the item if you asked for it before the paper was printed. There are people from whom you could not draw a local with a corkscrew—they absolutely don't know any news. But after the paper comes out, they will say that you are misinformed about some local happening and wonder why you can't get things straight.—Scranton Gazette.

Old papers for sale at this office at 20 cents a hundred.

EAST END NOTES.

From the Spearville News, July 26.

Farmers report their wheat turning out better than they expected, after the drouth.

Mrs. U. Krom departed Monday evening for her old home in New York, where she goes to visit her father and other relatives. She was joined by her daughter, Mrs. Woodbury, at Larned.

The Jetmore College seems to be a sure thing. Prof. LeMaster has been canvassing for subscriptions and reports that several \$100 subscriptions have been obtained. The new catalogue will be out in about two weeks. A card sent to Prof. R. A. LeMaster will secure it.

Willie, son of Mr. William Kasselmann, residing seven miles southeast of here, while returning home from helping a neighbor thresh, was considerably shaken up, as a result of his team becoming frightened and running away throwing him out of the wagon and fracturing three ribs, besides bruising him up quite badly. Dr. Bartley was summoned and dressed his wounds which are not of a serious nature. Last report he was getting along all right.

A man and wife who had nearly succumbed to heart disease, and a family of seven children, one of which is a sufferer from St. Vitus dance, and all in a deplorable, half starved condition, were camped in the grove north of the pump house for a day or two last week. The man seemed totally indifferent and oblivious to the sufferings of his family. But two of the boys, driven by hunger, came into town and begged for something to eat. Several citizens investigated and generously administered to their pressing needs.

Trade with Porto Rico.

The State Department issued July 25 a proclamation of the President prepared in conformity to the Act of Congress of April 12, 1900, which provided that, "whenever the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico shall have enacted and put into operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of the government of Porto Rico, by this act established, and shall by resolution duly passed so notify the President, he shall make proclamation thereof, and thereupon all tariff duties on merchandise and articles going into Porto Rico from the United States or coming into the United States from Porto Rico shall cease and from and after such date all such merchandise and articles shall be entered at the several ports of entry free of duty," and further, "that as soon as a civil government for Porto Rico shall have been organized in accordance with the provisions of this act and notice thereof shall have been given to the President, he shall make proclamation thereof, and thereafter all collections of duties and taxes in Porto Rico, under the provisions of this act, shall be paid into the treasury of Porto Rico, to be expended as required by law for the government and benefit there, instead of being paid into the treasury of the United States."

The proclamation, after quoting in full the Act of the Porto Rico Legislative Assembly providing such a system of local taxation as was contemplated in this Act declares that free trade between the United States and Porto Rico now exists. The new arrangement went into effect immediately.

To Cure A Cold In One Day

Take Laxative Broom Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on each box. 25c.

To California for \$52.00

Round trip from Dodge City, August 6 and 20, September 3 and 17. Through tourist sleepers Chicago and Kansas City to Los Angeles and San Francisco; also chair cars. Personally conducted excursions. Homeseekers traverse by this line the rich San Joaquin Valley.

Visit Grand Canyon of Arizona en route

Santa Fe.

FRED GARDNER, Agent.

Dodge City, Kas.

BUCKLIN BREEZES.

From our Regular Correspondent.

—E. A. Gildemeister is loading a car or rye here for shipment.

—The mother of Mrs. E. A. Gildemeister is visiting her at her home just north-east of town.

—Mrs. Knowlton is quite sick at the home of her son, Fred Knowlton, south-east of Bucklin.

—H. P. McCaustland made a business trip to Dodge City, Monday evening, returning Tuesday.

—Mrs. Sillett and daughters left for their home a Willard, Kansas, last Friday evening.

—J. M. Valentine, of Lexington, Clark county, Kas., shipped cattle from Bucklin Tuesday morning.

—Mrs. E. C. Robinson, of Albany, Mo., is here and will for a time make her home with her daughter, Mrs. H. P. McCaustland.

—We learn that Mr. Lindberg, who has been here for some days, looking for a location, has bought a farm, north of Bucklin, just across the river.

—The carpenters are at work on a new dwelling house of N. E. Bloss, in the west part of town. The building is 28x28, one story. H. DeBaun and Ray Frazier are doing the work.

—Jas. Pendleton and wife of Ford, were transacting business in Bucklin, Monday. Mr. Pendleton is feeling sorter good over that twenty-two-bushel-to-the-acre wheat crop that he threshed a short time ago.

—Jesse Christopher, another pilgrim, returned from El Reno, Monday. From what I can learn from hearsay about the crowds that were down there, I guess that everybody was there, and that they had most all of their relations with them.

—J. M. Lindberg, wife and little son, of Chase county, Kansas, are here looking for a location. H. P. McCaustland, the real estate man, has them in charge and is showing them the country all around here. Mr. Lindberg says that the only reason that he has not bought is that he has seen so many fine places that he can't make a choice.

—We heard on the street yesterday what we used to call in our old army days, grape vine news, to the effect that there would be an engineer here on yesterday's train to locate and stake out some additional side tracks, etc. Like the grape vine news of old, it proved to be not entirely reliable, but in this case it proved to be true in part—the stakes came but the rest of the outfit didn't. Never mind, just wait, patiently wait, there will be something did, some day, or shortly thereafter.

—Dr. J. C. Bredehoff was called down to Mrs. E. E. Bolby's Sunday evening, Mrs. Bolby having met with a very painful accident. We do not know all the particulars, but she was out driving and two little boys with her in the buggy; the horses became unmanageable and while she was trying to get them under control the tongue came out of the breast yoke and dropped to the ground, stopping the buggy suddenly, and she was dragged out between the horses, receiving a severe cut in the face. The shock must have been a severe one, for she was unconscious when found, shortly afterward. The boys, we learn were not hurt.

—Well, if the back-bone of the drouth that has been with us, for these many days and has caused so much kicking, wasn't broken last Saturday night it was badly twisted by that down-pour of from two and one-half to three inches of rain. It was real wet rain, too; we were out in a part of it and we know it was wet. The rain was accompanied by wind, at least I expect that the train men on No. 62 of the east bound local freight thought so, when the wind pitched up four of its empty box cars and hurled them down the embankment. This occurred about three miles east of Bucklin. The four cars were completely wrecked and section foreman, S. J. Prewett, received orders to burn them where they lay, and he did it; oh! what a waste of raw material (for kluding) but I suppose the railroad company knows its business.

—That school meeting! What was the matter with it? We are informed that there were two members of the school board present, viz: W. R. Gordon director, presiding, and S. D. Aulls, treasurer, and there were just five other voters present. Mrs. J. M. Buttolph was chosen director, vice W. R. Gordon, term expired. On motion of Mrs. L. J. Barns, it was decided to remodel the school house, making two rooms of it, and employing two teachers, one for six months and one for 8 months. I learn that it was also decided that no male teacher need apply. A levy of ten mills was made to defray the necessary expenses. Already we hear mutterings of discontent and opposition to what was done there, and talk as to how to proceed in order to get a reconsideration of the action taken at the meeting. Not

knowing the number of school children in the district, I do not know whether the action taken and the decision made was wise or not, but one thing I do think and think it hard, that is those of us who staid away from the meeting and those who were there and failed to vote on the proposition, have no right to find fault and grumble at what was done. And if we had the interest that we ought to have in the education and training of the children of the community in which we live there would have been many more of us there, and being there we would have voted for what we thought was to the best interest of all. What is true of this district, is true of many others, and what a comment it is on our boasted love of education and progress. Is it any wonder that so many of our boys, aye, and girls, too, are getting their education in the streets and gutters of our towns and villages? "What will the harvest be?"

RAILROAD NEWS.

—Business on the railroads is brisk.

—John Huser has recovered, so as to be able to walk about.

—Henry Mayer, of Newton, claim agent of the Santa Fe, was in the city yesterday.

—Mrs. Arvan Falkner returned yesterday morning from Colorado, and Brake-man Falkner is happy.

—Conductor Harbst and family returned from Buffalo last week. They found a pleasant time at Buffalo.

—James Henry, of the round house force, while loading a side rod to a broken down engine, July 28, wrenched his back, and he is confined to his bed unable to move.

—Engineer Mike Dwyer has been moved to Western division, from La Junta to Pueblo. We are sorry to see Mike and family go. They have always been good honest customers with everyone.

—An order has been given out that the new Santa Fe design is to be painted on the sides of all the box cars hereafter. The trademark consists of a Greek cross in a white circular field the words "Santa Fe" occupying one arm of the cross. The trademark heretofore has been a black square with the words "Santa Fe Route" enclosed within it.

The Rock Island management has been quietly at work for some time past preparing for the building of a line between Kansas City and Topeka. The survey was recently completed and an entrance to Kansas City has been arranged for by the purchase of land for a distance of several miles west of Topeka on the north side of the Kansas river. The work of securing right of way between the two cities will be commenced within a short time, and it is now the intention to have the line completed during the coming year. The Rock Island company now uses the Union Pacific tracks between Kansas City and Topeka.

—"Once in a while I hear a fireman chewing the rag about his lot in life," remarked an experienced engineer yesterday, "and whenever I do it always gives me a dull pain. I realize that the life of a fireman is no procession of rosy-hued dreams, but the boys of today have a great deal better time than they did in the days when I was handling the shovel. In those days a fireman had to be something of a coal miner to hold his job. We didn't have an understanding with the company regarding the kind of coal that was dumped out to us. Now-a-days the coal as it is furnished the engines is almost ready for the fire-box. Many a time when I was firing I have seen chunks weighing three or four hundred dred pounds dumped on the tender; and maybe you don't believe that smashing up those big chunks made lots of extra work for us. Then the work of caring for the engines cost almost as much effort as keeping her hot—more, some folks would tell you. Brass trimmings was considered the correct thing in those days. There were brass bands around the boiler, the dome and the sand-box, the rims of the wheels covers were brass, and there was brass along the running board, and on the cylinders. All this brass surface the fireman had to keep clean, and it was a five hours' job, with a man working like a dog, to give an engine a thorough cleaning. I would like to see some of the fireman today who are kicking on their lot have to put up with the lay-out we fellows did in the earlier days."

The glib falsifier of a north Missouri paper pretends to have heard of the following call for professional services sent by a local resident to a doctor in a neighboring town:

"Dear Doctor—My wife's mother is at death's door. Please come at once and see if you can pull her through."—Kansas City Journal.

Now is the time to have your Wheel cleaned and adjusted.
THE NOVELTY WORKS.

WALL PAPER, PAINT AND OIL
—AT—
CITY DRUG STORE.
Cameras, Kodaks and Supplies always on hand.
RATH & BAINBRIDGE.